



CITY NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**** Media Advisory ****

Officers saturate West Wichita to keep drunk drivers off the road

What: DUI Saturation Patrol
When: Friday, March 17
Who: Wichita Police Department
Where: West Wichita

As an ongoing part of the Wichita Police Department's Traffic Safety Initiative, Officers will be patrolling west Wichita between 11 p.m. on Friday, March 17, and 3 a.m. on March 18, in an effort to locate intoxicated drivers. "This project is designed to identify impaired drivers on our major thoroughfares in West Wichita and remove them from our roadways" said Sgt. Jerry Quick, Patrol West Bureau.

Officers participating in this enforcement activity will be driving marked police cars with a DUI Task Force sign on the vehicle. Motorists who are suspected of driving under the influence will

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be pulled over and given a field sobriety test, which may be followed by a Breath Alcohol Test. Those drivers found to be over the legal limit of .08 will be arrested.

Wichita has recorded five traffic fatalities since the first of the year, with only one of those being alcohol or drug related. In 2005, Wichita had seven traffic fatalities for the same time period.

“We want everyone to have an enjoyable St. Patrick’s Day, but be responsible and if you drink, utilize a designated driver,” said Sgt. Quick.

This DUI Saturation is just one aspect of the four-prong approach that the Department is using in addressing traffic safety in the city of Wichita. The four aspects of traffic safety include education, enforcement, environment and awareness.

Funding for this enforcement effort was made possible through an Impaired Driver Deterrence Grant through the Kansas Department of Transportation. For more information, please contact Sgt. Jerry Quick or Capt. Terry Nelson at the Patrol West Bureau at 337-9400.